

September 22, 1952

Dear Dr. Kauffmann:

I have recently seen your note with Schmid (Acta path. 1952) on the isolation of a unique strain of Salmonella paratyphi A with the XII<sub>2</sub> antigen. If it is not too much trouble to you, I would appreciate the favor of a subculture of this strain. The possession of the XII<sub>2</sub> component should bring it into our system of cultures within which our genetic techniques are applicable. It would appear that these procedures (outlined in an abstract I recently sent to you, and about to appear in an article in J. Bact.) should permit the exchange of flagellar factors from any strain to any other in the XII<sub>2</sub>-carrying groups. We are currently working to apply this notion on a larger scale. ~~If~~ I wonder if there are any antigen combinations, corresponding to existing serotypes or not, that would be of special interest to you. If ~~see~~, we will be glad to attempt it. We are also ~~initiating experiments~~ starting experiments to determine whether other Salmonella groups can be manipulated in the same way. These operations are perhaps laboratory curiosities, but they perhaps justify the suspicion that recombination between strains may play some role in the natural generation of types.

If I may make an additional request, I would be most grateful to be the beneficiary of reprints of your current and continuing publications on serology of E. coli and Salmonella. Your recent book has been most helpful, but it is a difficult task to keep abreast of current developments. Il va sans dire, I will be most happy to exchange.

I might mention in passing that our ~~synthetic~~ "synthetic" IX XII; i— strain appears to be strictly monophasic, and should be an ideal antigen for the production of anti-i sera. We have used it ourselves, and have sent the strain to Chamblee, Georgia. If it would be of any use to yourself, I will be glad to forward it.

Yours sincerely

Joshua Lederberg